

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

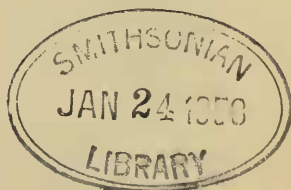
FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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DIRECTION 84

Designation under the Plenary Powers of a neotype for the nominal species *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) (*Direction* supplementary to *Opinion 73* and *Direction 36*).



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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(16th December 1954)

DIRECTION 84

DESIGNATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF A NEOTYPE FOR THE NOMINAL SPECIES "CANCER DEPURATOR" LINNAEUS, 1758 (CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER DECAPODA) ("DIRECTION" SUPPLEMENTARY TO "OPINION" 73 AND "DIRECTION" 36)

RULING :—(1) It is hereby directed under the Plenary Powers that the nominal species *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) be identified by the specimen designated and figured as the neotype therefor by Holthuis (L.B.) (1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 12 : 104—105, pl. 2).

(2) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer depurator* and determined by the neotype designated therefor under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (Name No. 1462) ;
- (b) *holsatus* Fabricius (J.C.), 1798, as published in the combination *Portunus holsatus* (Name No. 1463) ;
- (c) *latipes* Pennant, 1777, as published in the combination *Cancer latipes* (specific name of type species of *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814]) (Name No. 1464).

(3) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid*

Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *Platyonychus* Latreille, 1818 (a junior objective synonym of *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814]) (Name No. 1091) ;
- (b) *Platyonychus* Voigt, 1836 (an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for *Platyonychus* Latreille, 1818) (Name No. 1092).

(4) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 487 :—

variegatus [Leach], [1814], as published in the combination *Portumnus variegatus* (a junior objective synonym of *latipes* Pennant, 1777, as published in the combination *Cancer latipes*).

I. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PRESENT “ DIRECTION ”

The problem with which the present *Direction* is concerned came to light in 1955 when the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature had under consideration the question of the action to be taken to give effect, so far as concerns the names of genera of the Order Decapoda of the Class Crustacea, to the General Directive issued to it by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, that the specific names of the type species of genera, the names of which had up to that time been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, should be placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* in every case where the name concerned was the oldest available name for the species concerned and that in other cases there should be placed on the above *Official List* whatever might be considered by specialists to be the oldest available name for the species concerned. One of the names considered in 1955 from the

foregoing point of view was the specific name *latipes* Pennant, 1777, as published in the combination *Cancer latipes*, the specific name of the type species of the genus *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814], a name which had been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion 73*. It was at this point that Dr. L. B. Holthuis (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) brought forward evidence showing that in fact the above specific name was a junior subjective synonym of the name *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer depurator*, a name which was however at that time widely—though incorrectly—used for an entirely different species belonging to the genus *Macropipus*. On receiving this information, Mr. Hemming at once executed a Minute withdrawing the proposals which had previously been submitted in regard to the specific name *latipes* Pennant and directing that the problems associated with that name should be made the subject of further study. The instruction so given is recorded in *Direction 36* (1956, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 1(D) : 1—46), the *Direction* embodying the decisions taken by the International Commission in regard to the specific names of the species which were the type species of genera of the Order Decapoda which had been placed on the *Official List* prior to the issue to the Commission by the International Congress of Zoology of the General Directive referred to above.

2. Following the withdrawal of the case of the name *latipes* Pennant for further study correspondence took place between the Secretary and Dr. Holthuis as the result of which it was agreed (i) that a paper dealing with the problems involved in connection with the specific name *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer depurator*, should be submitted to the International Commission by Dr. Holthuis as soon as possible and (ii) that, concurrently with the submission of the above document there should be submitted a note by the Secretary supporting Dr. Holthuis's proposals and explaining their relation to the entry relating to the generic name *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814], made on the *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion 73* and the consequent need for an early decision on the issues involved in order to avoid any delay occurring in the preparations in hand for the publication of the *Official List* in book-form.

3. Under the arrangement described above the following application was submitted to the International Commission by Dr. Holthuis on 7th February 1956 :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to secure that the specific name “depurator” Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination “Cancer depurator” (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) shall validly apply to the species commonly so known

By L. B. HOLTHUIS

(*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

Plate 2

The present application deals with a specific name given by Linnaeus (1758) to a common Portunid crab inhabiting European waters. A most undesirable situation exists at this moment because of the fact that this specific name is widely used for another well known, but quite different species of European crab. The use by the International Commission of its Plenary Powers is requested here as the only means to end this highly objectionable state of affairs in a satisfactory way.

2. At least three species of swimming crabs (family PORTUNIDAE) have been indicated at one time or another with the specific name *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758. These three species are indicated here as A, B, and C, respectively ; their synonymy will be dealt with in this order.

Synonymy of Species “A”

3. The names which have been bestowed upon Species “A” are the following :—

Cancer depurator Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 627.

Cancer latipes Pennant, 1777, *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) **4** : 3.

Cancer lysianassa Herbst, 1801, *Versuch Naturgesch. Krabben Krebse* **3(2)** : 43.

Portumnus variegatus [Leach], [1814], *Edinb. Ency.* **7** : 391.

Platyonichus variegatus Latreille, 1818, *Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* **27** : 5.

Platyonichus depurator Latreille, 1825, *Ency. méth. Hist. nat. Ins.* **10** : 152.

Platyonichus latipes Milne Edwards (H.), 1834, *Hist. nat. Crust.* **1** : 436.

Portumnus latipes Dana, 1853, *U.S. Explor. Exped.* **13(2)** : 1568.

4. In the tenth edition of his *Systema Naturae*, Linnaeus described the species *Cancer depurator* as follows :—

“ C.[ancer] brachyurus, thorace laevi utrinque subquiquedentato, manibus apice compressis, pedibus posticis ovatis.

Planc. conch. 34. t. 3. f. 7.

Habitat in M. Mediterraneo.

Frons inter oculos dentibus tribus. Digitus fixus chelarum valde compressus ”.

5. Plancius's figure is of a very good quality and represents quite accurately the species which at present is generally known under the name *Portumnus latipes* (Pennant, 1777). Linnaeus's description fits very well for that species, his reference to the smooth carapace and the strongly compressed fingers especially being significant. There cannot be the slightest doubt therefore as to the identity of *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus with *Cancer latipes* Pennant.

6. Leach (1814) made *Cancer latipes* Pennant the type species of a new genus *Portumnus*, giving the species at the same time the new substitute name *Portumnus variegatus*. Latreille (1818, *Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* 27 : 4) proposed the new generic name *Platyonichus* to replace *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814], which according to him too much resembled the generic name *Portunus* Weber, 1795. In 1825 Latreille evidently recognised that the specific name *depurator* was the oldest available name for *Portumnus variegatus* (= *Cancer latipes*), which species therefore was named by him *Platyonichus depurator*. As far as I can ascertain, this is the last time that the specific name *depurator* was used in the correct sense. H. Milne Edwards (1834) in his monograph of the Crustacea, and most subsequent authors used for this species the specific name *latipes*; a few British authors (such as Bell, 1844—1846, *Hist. Brit. stalk-eyed Crust.* : 85) around the middle of the last century still followed Leach in using the specific name *variegatus*, but later the name *latipes* Pennant was almost universally adopted. This name is found in all modern carcinological handbooks and treatises (e.g. Pesta, 1918, *Decapodenf. Adria* : 397; Schellenberg, 1928, *Tierw. Deutschl.* 10(2) : 115; Marine biol. Ass., 1931, *Plymouth mar. Fauna* (ed. 2) : 216; Nobre, 1936, *Fauna mar. Portug.* 4 : 28; Bouvier, 1940, *Faune de France* 37 : 231; Zariquiey, 1946, *Publ. Biol. Medit. Inst. Esp. Est. Medit.* 2 : 151).

7. The generic name *Platyonichus* Latreille, 1818, was used for the genus *Portumnus* by several authors during the first two thirds of the XIXth century, such as H. Milne Edwards (1834, *Hist. nat. Crust.* 1 : 436), A. Milne Edwards (1861, *Arch. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris* 10 : 410), and Heller (1863, *Crust. südl. Europ.* : 91). At the suggestion of Bell (1844—1846, *Hist. Brit. stalk-eyed Crust.* : 83), Dana (1851, *Amer.*

Journ. Sci. (2) **12** : 130), and Miers (1874, *Zool. Erebus Terror* **20** : 2), the genus *Portumnus* (= *Platyonichus*) was split into two genera. For the genus containing *Cancer latipes* the generic name *Portumnus* was retained, the other genus was (incorrectly) given the name *Platyonichus* (this latter genus at present is known under the name *Ovalipes* Rathbun, 1898). During the last thirty years of the nineteenth and throughout the present century the name *Portumnus* was generally accepted, and it is found in practically all modern handbooks. Of the handbooks mentioned above, only that by Nobre cites the present genus as *Platyonichus* (in the Erroneous Subsequent Spelling *Platyonychus* first published by Voigt in 1836 (Cuvier's *Thierreich* **4** : 104)).

Synonymy of Species " B "

8. The following are the names which have been used for Species " B " :—

Cancer depurator Pennant, 1777, *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) **4** : 4 (non Linnaeus, 1758).

Portunus holsatus Fabricius, 1798, *Suppl. Ent. syst.* : 366.

Portunus lividus [Leach], [1814], *Edinb. Ency.* **7** : 390.

Liocarcinus holsatus Stimpson, 1870, *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool.* **2** : 146.

9. When Pennant (1777) gave the new name *Cancer latipes* to the true *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, he used the name *Cancer depurator* for another species of swimming crab, the oldest available name of which is *Portunus holsatus* Fabricius, 1798. The same species was described as new by Leach, 1814, under the name *Portunus lividus*. H. Milne Edwards (1834, *Hist. nat. Crust.* **1** : 443) correctly used the specific name *holsatus* for this species and has been followed in this by practically all subsequent authors. In all modern carcinological handbooks and revisions the name *Portunus holsatus* is used for this species (Lagerberg, 1908, *Göteb. K. Vetensk. Samh. Handl.* (4) **11**(2) : 90 ; Stephensen, 1910, *Danm. Fauna* **9** : 52 ; Palmer, 1927, *J. mar. biol. Ass. U.K.* (n. ser.) **14** : 889 ; Schellenberg, 1928, *Tierw. Deutschl.* **10**(2) : 121 ; Mar. biol. Ass., 1931, *Plymouth mar. Fauna* (ed. 2) : 215 ; Nobre, 1936, *Fauna mar. Portug.* **4** : 35 ; Bouvier, 1940, *Faune de France* **37** : 243 ; Zariquiey, 1946, *Publ. Biol. Medit. Inst. Esp. Est. Medit.* **2** : 154, 156). As has been decided by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in its *Opinion* 394 (now in the press)¹ the correct generic name for the genus containing this species is *Macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833.

¹ The *Opinion* here referred to has since been published (1956, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* **12** : 315—336).

Synonymy of Species " C "

10. The following are the names which have been applied to Species " C " :—

Cancer depurator var. Pennant, 1777, *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) 4 : 4.

Portunus depurator [Leach], [1814], *Edinb. Ency.* 7 : 390 (non *Cancer depurator* L.).

Portunus plicatus Risso, 1816, *Hist. nat. Crust. Nice* : 29.

11. The species dealt with here, was incorrectly identified as *Portunus depurator* by Leach. It was described as new in 1816 by Risso, who named it *Portunus plicatus*. Risso's name was adopted by H. Milne Edwards (1834, *Hist. nat. Crust.* 1 : 442), but practically all subsequent authors followed Leach in the use of the name *depurator* for this species. In all the modern handbooks cited in paragraph 9 above the species is dealt with under the specific name *depurator*. As in the case of Species " B ", the correct generic name here is *Macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833.

Summary and Recommendations

12. Summarising, we find that at present the correct specific name *holsatus* Fabricius, 1798, is used for Species " B ", but that the names that are in common use for Species " A " and " C " are nomenclatorially incorrect. Species " A " currently is named *Portunus latipes* (Pennant, 1777), but should be known as *Portunus depurator* (Linnaeus, 1758), while species " C " is generally known as *Portunus depurator* (Linnaeus, 1758) but actually should be named *Macropipus plicatus* (Risso, 1816). Since the foregoing incorrect specific names have been consistently used for Species " A " and " C " for more than 100 years, it seems best to validate these names under the Plenary Powers of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. Not only is this necessary in order to avoid the changing of long established usage but in addition it is required if the highly confusing and objectionable transfer of the specific name *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, from Species " C " to Species " A " is to be avoided. There are two ways by which this end might be attained. The first would be for the Commission to validate the name *Portunus depurator* as from Leach, 1814, by suppressing all previous uses of the name *depurator* under its Plenary Powers. The other solution would be for the Commission to approve under its Plenary Powers the designation of a specimen of *Portunus plicatus* Risso, 1816 (*Macropipus plicatus* (Risso)) to be the neotype of *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, despite the fact that, contrary to the virtually unanimous interpretation by later authors, Linnaeus's description does not fit this species. The second of these courses seems preferable, partly because it excludes the possibility of the subsequent re-opening of the present case through the discovery of a name for this species having priority over *depurator* as published by Leach in 1814, and partly because it

avoids any change in the authorship customarily attributed to this name. It may be noted that the procedure suggested in this case is exactly parallel to that recently approved by the Commission when dealing with an application in regard to the name *Coluber sirtalis* Linnaeus, 1758 (Class Reptilia) (Schmidt & Conant, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 2 : 67—68), as for that species also the Commission approved under its Plenary Powers the designation as the neotype of a specimen which did not belong to the species described by Linnaeus under the above name (*Opinion* 385).

13. As a preliminary to the submission of the present application, I have therefore designated a specimen of *Portunus plicatus* Risso to be the neotype of *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, subject to approval being given by the Commission under its Plenary Powers to the designation so made. Full particulars regarding the neotype designated are given in the Annexe to the present application. A plate showing a life-size photograph of the neotype is also attached.

14. The recommendations submitted in the present application have been the subject of consultations with, and are supported by, the following specialists : (a) Dr. J. Forest (*Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*) ; (b) Dr. I. Gordon (*British Museum (Natural History)*) ; (c) Dr. Th. Monod (*Institut d'Afrique Noire, Dakar*) ; (d) Dr. R. Zariquiey (*Barcelona, Spain*).

15. The concrete proposals now submitted are that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

- (1) direct under its Plenary Powers that the nominal species *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, is to be interpreted by reference to the specimen designated and figured as the neotype of that species by the present applicant in the Annexe to the present application ;
- (2) place the under-mentioned names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer depurator*, and as proposed to be determined under the Plenary Powers by the neotype specified in (1) above ;
 - (b) *holsatus* Fabricius, 1798, as published in the combination *Portunus holsatus* ;
 - (c) *latipes* Pennant, 1777, as published in the combination *Cancer latipes* (specific name of type species of *Portunus* [Leach], [1814]) ;

- (3) place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—
- (a) *Platyonichus* Latreille, 1818 (a junior objective synonym of *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814]) ;
- (b) *Platyonychus* Voigt, 1836 (an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling of *Platyonichus* Latreille, 1818) ;
- (4) place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* : *variegatus* [Leach], [1814], as published in the combination *Portumnus variegatus* (a junior objective synonym of *latipes* Pennant, 1777, as published in the combination *Cancer latipes*).

16. No action is required in regard to the generic names *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814], or *Macropipus* Prestandrea, 1833, since both these names have already been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, the first by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 73, the second by that in *Opinion* 394. Similarly, no action is called for at the family-group-name level, for neither of the above generic names is currently regarded as being that of the type genus of a family-group taxon. The family-group name PORTUNIDAE Rafinesque, 1815, the name of the taxon in which these genera are currently placed, was placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in the later of the *Opinions* cited above.

ANNEXE

Designation of Neotype for “ *Cancer depurator* ” Linnaeus, 1758 (“ *Portunus depurator* ” (Linnaeus, 1758))

By L. B. HOLTHUIS

(*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

Description : The specimen here designated as the neotype for *Cancer depurator* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 627) is an adult male with a carapace breadth of 53 mm. The characters exhibited by this specimen agree well with those given by Palmer (1927, *J. mar. biol. Ass U.K.* (n.s.) 14 : 893) for the above nominal species there cited as *Portunus depurator* Linnaeus. The carapace is flattened with the dorsal surface coarsely tuberculate, showing numerous irregularly granular ridges and single tubercles. The frontal teeth are sharply pointed and three in number. The five anterolateral teeth are of about equal size, the posterior is not conspicuously longer than the others and is directed anteriorly. The legs are long and slender, the dactylus of the fifth leg is oval and shows no median ridge, its distal part is of a dark violet colour.

2. Locality of Neotype : The neotype here designated was caught on 9th August 1954 by a Spanish trawler in the Mediterranean off Cabo Norfeo near Rosas, N.E. Spain, at a depth of about 300 m. The specimen was bought on the same day at the Rosas fish market (leg. I. Gordon, R. Zariquiey and L. B. Holthuis).

3. Reference Number allotted to Neotype : The neotype here designated forms part of the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands. It has been allotted the Registered Number "Decapoda 10374".

4. Label associated with the Neotype : The specimen is preserved in spirit and labelled as the neotype of *Cancer depurator* L. Apart from this indication, the parchment paper label associated with the specimen bears the modern name of the species : *Macropipus depurator* (L.), and the precise indications as to the locality, date, collectors and registered number, which are given in the previous paragraphs.

5. Figure of Neotype : A plate showing a life-size photograph of the neotype here designated is attached to the present note. For this photograph I am indebted to Mr. H. F. Roman.

4. The complementary note which it had been agreed (paragraph 2 above) should be prepared by the Secretary was submitted by that Officer on 18th February 1956. The note in question was as follows :—

Support for Dr. L. B. Holthuis's request for a decision as to the oldest available name for the type species of the genus "Portumnus" [Leach], [1814] (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda), a genus, the name of which was placed on the "Official List of Generic Names in Zoology" by the Ruling given in "Opinion" 73

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

In September 1955 I submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature proposals² for giving effect, so far as concerned the names of genera of Decapod Crustacea placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in the period up to the end of 1936, to the General Directive issued to the Commission by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, that

² The decision taken by the International Commission on the proposals here referred to has since been embodied in *Direction 36* (1956, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 1 (D) : 1—46).



“*Cancer depurator*” Linnaeus, 1758
Neotype designated by Holthuis (L.B.) (1956) and validated under the Plenary
Powers in the present *Opinion*

arrangements should be made for placing on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* the specific name of the type species of every genus, the name of which had been placed on the *Official List* during the foregoing period, where that specific name was an available name and was considered to be the oldest such name for the species concerned. One of the generic names so involved was *Portumnus* [Leach], [1814], which had been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion 73* published in 1922 (*Smithson. misc. Coll. 73* (No. 1) : 23—31).

2. At the time when the Commission placed the name *Portumnus* [Leach] on the *Official List*, it made the following entry regarding the type species of the genus so named “*mt. P. latipes* = *Cancer latipes* Pennant, 1777 = *P. variegatus* Leach, 1814”. Reference to the original description confirms that *Portumnus* was a monotypical genus. It shows also that the sole included nominal species was *Portumnus variegatus* [Leach], a nominal species then established, though quite unnecessarily, as a substitute for *Cancer latipes* Pennant, 1777. Since the names *variegatus* [Leach], [1814], and *latipes* Pennant, 1777, are objective synonyms of one another and the name *latipes* Pennant, 1777, is an available name, that name and not the substitute name *variegatus* [Leach] should be regarded as the name of the type species of the genus concerned.

3. The investigations undertaken prior to the submission of the proposals referred to in paragraph 1 above had not disclosed the existence of any senior synonym of the name *latipes* Pennant, 1777, and it was concluded therefore that, when rendering *Opinion 73*, the Commission had been correct in concluding that the name *latipes* Pennant was the oldest available name for the species concerned. In those proposals it was therefore recommended that the name *latipes* Pennant should be placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* and that its junior objective synonym *variegatus* [Leach] should be placed on the corresponding *Official Index*. At this point Dr. L. B. Holthuis informed me that the name *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer depurator*, properly applied to the same species as did the name *latipes* Pennant, though, as he explained, the name *depurator* Linnaeus had for many years been applied, and was still applied, to an entirely different species. Dr. Holthuis added that very serious confusion would result if the name *depurator* Linnaeus were to be transferred to the species now known as *latipes* Pennant and that, in conjunction with other interested specialists, he had in mind the submission to the Commission of proposals designed to prevent this transfer from being required. The information so received made it evident that the Commission could not take a decision on the question whether the name *latipes* Pennant, 1777, as the specific name of the type species of *Portumnus* [Leach],

should be placed on the *Official List* until a decision had been reached on the question whether the name *depurator* Linnaeus should in future be applied to the species now known as *latipes* Pennant. I accordingly at once withdrew the proposals which I had submitted in regard to the name *latipes* Pennant and its junior objective synonym *variegatus* [Leach], pending a decision being reached by the Commission in regard to the name *depurator* Linnaeus. At the same time I informed Dr. Holthuis that I very much hoped that it would be possible for him to submit to the Commission at an early date his proposals in regard to the name *depurator* Linnaeus.

4. Now that Dr. Holthuis's proposal has been received, I warmly support his request for a decision as to the name to be accepted as the oldest available name for the type species of the genus *Portumnus* [Leach], for, as the name *Portumnus* has been placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, a decision on this matter must be taken before the *Official List* can be published in book-form.

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

5. **Registration of the present application :** At the time of the execution by the Secretary of the Minute withdrawing the case of the specific name *latipes* Pennant (*Cancer*) from the scope of the proposals relating to the specific names of the type species of genera of Decapods to which reference has been made in the opening paragraph of the present *Direction*, the problem so withdrawn was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.)1031.

6. **Publication of the present application :** The present application together with Mr. Hemming's supplementary note were sent to the printer on 29th February 1956 and were published on 20th July of the same year in Part 4 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Holthuis, 1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **12** : 99—105, pl. 2 ; Hemming, 1956, *ibid.* **12** : 105—106).

7. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 20th July 1956 (a) in Part 4 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which the application by Dr. Holthuis and the supplementary note by Mr. Hemming were published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications.

8. Support received from four specialists : As explained in Dr. Holthuis's application (paragraph 14) the proposals submitted in the present case were supported by the following specialists :—
(a) Dr. J. Forest (*Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*) ;
(b) Dr. I. Gordon (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) ;
(c) Dr. Th. Monod (*Institut d'Afrique Noire, Dakar*) ; (d) Dr. R. Zariquiey (*Barcelona, Spain*).

9. No objection received : No objection to the action proposed in the present case had been received from any source.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

10. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(57)11 : On 15th February 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(57)11) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, " the proposal relating to specific name *depurator* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Cancer depurator*, as set out in Points (1) to (4) in paragraph 15 on pages 103 to 104 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* " [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in paragraph 3 of the present *Direction*].

11. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 15th May 1957.

12. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)11 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)11 was as follows :—

- (a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-two (22) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Boschma ; Mayr ; Lemche ; Hering ; Jaczewski ;
Prantl ; Holthuis ; Mertens ; Bonnet ; Dymond ;
Vokes ; Bodenheimer ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Key ; Stoll ;
Esaki ; do Amaral ; Hemming ; Kühnelt ; Cabrera ;
Tortonese ; Miller ;

- (b) *Negative Votes, two (2) :*

Riley ; Sylvester-Bradley ;

- (c) *Prevented from voting by interruption of postal communications consequent upon political disturbances, one (1) :*

Hankó ;

- (d) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

13. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 16th May 1957, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P. (57)11, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 12 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in